

<b>WILDLIFE HABITAT APPRAISAL GUIDE</b>			
Applicant:		Farm No:	Tract No:
County:			
<b>CROPLAND COMMUNITY MODEL</b>			
<b>1</b>	<b>BORDER (Minimum Width 5 feet)</b>		<b>POINTS</b>
	Border around >50 percent of the field		<b>10</b>
	Border around 25-50 percent of the field		<b>5</b>
	Border around <25 percent of the field		<b>1</b>
	<b>BORDER TOTAL POINTS</b>		
<b>2</b>	<b>CROP FIELD MANAGEMENT</b>		<b>POINTS</b>
	No fall tillage, residues undisturbed		<b>10</b>
	Chisel plow once in the fall, or no-till winter wheat		<b>8</b>
	Crop residues grazed, chopped, or baled		<b>6</b>
	Fall disking, or conventional tillage winter wheat		<b>3</b>
	Fall moldboard plowing		<b>1</b>
<b>CROP FIELD MANAGEMENT TOTAL POINTS</b>			
<b>3</b>	<b>CROP ROTATION</b>		<b>POINTS</b>
	Small grains-row crop-legume (meadow)		<b>10</b>
	Small grains-row crop		<b>5</b>
	Continuous small grain or continuous row crop		<b>1</b>
	<b>CROP ROTATION TOTAL POINTS</b>		
<b>4</b>	<b>FIELD SIZE (Percent of field within 660' of ungrazed woodland or dense woody cover)</b>		<b>POINTS</b>
	75-100 percent		<b>10</b>
	50-75 percent		<b>6</b>
	25-50 percent		<b>4</b>
	<25 percent		<b>1</b>
	<b>FIELD SIZE TOTAL SCORE</b>		
<b>SCORING SUMMARY</b> (Maximum Possible Score = 40)			
<b>Existing Score:</b>		<b>Planned Score:</b>	<b>Applied Score:</b>
<b>NATURAL COMMUNITY TYPE INDEX</b>			
<u>Total Existing Score</u> Maximum Possible Score		<u>Total Planned Score</u> Maximum Possible Score	<u>Total Applied Score</u> Maximum Possible Score
<b>Existing Index:</b>		<b>Planned Index:</b>	<b>Applied Index:</b>

<b>GLADE COMMUNITY MODEL</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>HERBACEOUS CANOPY COVER (% canopy coverage of herbaceous vegetation-grasses, forbs, and legumes)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Foliage covers >70 percent of the ground cover	10
	Foliage covers 40-70 percent of the ground cover	5
	Foliage covers <40 percent of the ground cover	1
	<b>HERBACEOUS CANOPY COVER SUBTOTAL POINTS</b>	
	<b>GRASS COVER (percent of herbaceous vegetation in grass or grass-like plants)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Grasses 75-100 percent of the herbaceous cover	10
	Grasses 50-75 percent of the herbaceous cover	6
	Grasses 20-50 percent of the herbaceous cover	3
	Grasses <20 percent of the herbaceous cover	1
	<b>GRASS COVER SUBTOTAL POINTS</b>	
	<b>HERBACEOUS COVER TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>WOODY CANOPY COVERAGE (trees and shrubs)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	<10 percent	10
	10-20 percent	8
	20-30 percent	6
	30-50 percent	3
	>50 percent	1
	<b>WOODY CANOPY TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>BARE SOIL, ROCK, AND LEDGES</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	<10 percent of the glade bare	10
	10-25 percent of the glade bare	6
	25-50 percent of the glade bare	3
	>50 percent of the glade bare	1
	<b>WOODY CANOPY TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>GLADE MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Vegetation and soils do not indicate past or present grazing	10
	Past grazing evident or present grazing but without severe degradation to glade community	5
	Past or present grazing evident with noticeable decrease in plant diversity or coverage, soil erosion, or other degradation	1
	<b>GLADE MANAGEMENT TOTAL POINTS</b>	

<b>5</b>	<b>GRASS COMPOSITION</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Mixed native warm-season grasses (<25% CSG) and forbs	<b>10</b>
	Mixed grasses with legumes and forbs	<b>8</b>
	Mixed native warm-season grasses with few or no forbs	<b>6</b>
	Mixed cool-season grasses; bromegrass; timothy; orchardgrass; native grass monotypes; predominant legumes; or mixed grasses	<b>4</b>
	Fescue monotype (>50% fescue)	<b>1</b>
	<b>WOODY CANOPY TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>GLADE COMMUNITY MODEL (CONT'D)</b>		
<b>6</b>	<b>SIZE (To be evaluated from aerial photos. Consolidate separate glades when glades occur in complexes and are separated from each other by less than 0</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Mixed native warm-season grasses (<25% CSG) and forbs	<b>10</b>
	Mixed grasses with legumes and forbs	<b>8</b>
	Mixed native warm-season grasses with few or no forbs	<b>6</b>
	Mixed cool-season grasses; bromegrass; timothy; orchardgrass; native grass monotypes; predominant legumes; or mixed grasses	<b>4</b>
	Fescue monotype (>50% fescue)	<b>1</b>
	<b>SIZE TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>SCORING SUMMARY</b> (Maximum Possible Score = 70)		
<b>Existing Score:</b>	<b>Planned Score:</b>	<b>Applied Score:</b>
<b>NATURAL COMMUNITY TYPE INDEX</b>		
<u><b>Total Existing Score</b></u> Maximum Possible Score	<u><b>Total Planned Score</b></u> Maximum Possible Score	<u><b>Total Applied Score</b></u> Maximum Possible Score
<b>Existing Index:</b>	<b>Planned Index:</b>	<b>Applied Index:</b>
<b>MARSH COMMUNITY MODEL</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>SURFACE WATER PRESENT - CONSECUTIVE DAYS - LONG-TERM AVERAGE</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	> 3 months	<b>10</b>
	2-3 months	<b>8</b>
	1-2 month	<b>6</b>
	15-30 days	<b>3</b>
	<15 days	<b>1</b>
	<b>SURFACE WATER PRESENCE TOTAL POINTS</b>	

2	<b>SURFACE WATER CONDITIONS (frequency) on all or a portion of the wetland for at least 15 consecutive days.</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Annually	10
	3 out of 5 years	8
	1 out of 2 years	6
	2 out of 5 years	3
	< 2 out of 5 years; or < 15 days	1
SURFACE WATER CONDITION TOTAL POINTS		
3	<b>WATER DEPTH 1-18 inches (average fall-winter period)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	>90 percent of the wetland covered	10
	75-90 percent of the wetland covered	8
	50-75 percent of the wetland covered	6
	25-50 percent of the wetland covered	3
	< 25 percent of the wetland covered	1
WATER DEPTH TOTAL POINTS		
4	<b>PERCENT OF WETLAND COVERED WITH VEGETATION</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	25-50 percent	10
	15-25 percent	7
	5-15 percent	4
	< 5 to >50 percent	1
WATER DEPTH TOTAL POINTS		
5	<b>STREAM SYSTEM INTERACTION (does not include recharge from adjacent upland drainage)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Subject to recharge from channel at full bank flow	10
	Recharge from channel at over bank flow twice or more per year	7
	Recharge from channel at over bank flow once per year	4
	Recharge from channel at over bank flow less than annually; or non-depressional without water storage.	1
STREAM SYSTEM INTERACTION TOTAL POINTS		
6	<b>EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Stabilizes ephemeral, gully, scour, channel, or streambank erosion	10
	Traps sheet and rill sediment; or effective in trapping sediment at high flows (connected with stream system at high flows.)	5
	Provides little erosion or sediment control (adjacent area adequately protected or non-erosive.)	1
	EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL TOTAL POINTS	

<b>MARSH COMMUNITY MODEL (CONT'D)</b>		
<b>7</b>	<b>GRAZING OR HAYING USE</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Vegetation does not indicate past or present grazing/haying	<b>10</b>
	Past grazing/haying evident or present grazing/haying, but without severe degradation to the marsh community	<b>5</b>
	Past or present grazing/haying evident with noticeable decrease in plant diversity or coverage, or other degradation	<b>1</b>
	<b>GRAZING OR HAYING TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>SCORING SUMMARY</b> (Maximum Possible Score = 70)		
<b>Existing Score:</b>	<b>Planned Score:</b>	<b>Applied Score:</b>
<b>NATURAL COMMUNITY TYPE INDEX</b>		
<u><b>Total Existing Score</b></u> Maximum Possible Score	<u><b>Total Planned Score</b></u> Maximum Possible Score	<u><b>Total Applied Score</b></u> Maximum Possible Score
<b>Existing Index:</b>	<b>Planned Index:</b>	<b>Applied Index:</b>
<b>PRAIRIE/GRASSLAND COMMUNITY MODEL</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>FIELD SIZE (percent of the field within 660' of a treeline, shelterbelt, woodlot, or woodland)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	<10 percent	<b>10</b>
	10-25 percent	<b>8</b>
	25-50 percent	<b>6</b>
	50-75 percent	<b>4</b>
	>75 percent	<b>1</b>
	<b>FIELD SIZE TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>WOODY INVASION (percent of the field occurring as trees, shrubs, and vines)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	0-15 percent	<b>10</b>
	15-25 percent	<b>5</b>
	>25 percent	<b>1</b>
	<b>WOODY INVASION TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>LEGUME CANOPY COVERAGE</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	15-25 percent	<b>10</b>
	5-15 percent	<b>3</b>
	<5 or >25 percent	<b>1</b>
	<b>LEGUME CANOPY TOTAL POINTS</b>	

<b>PRAIRIE/GRASSLAND COMMUNITY MODEL (CONT'D)</b>		
<b>4</b>	<b>FORB CANOPY COVERAGE</b> (percent of the field covered by broadleaf plants other than grasses and legumes)	<b>POINTS</b>
	25-50 percent	10
	50-75 percent	3
	<25 or >75 percent	1
	<b>FORB CANOPY TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>AVERAGE HEIGHT OF HERBACEOUS VEGETATION</b> (at the start of the growing season)	<b>POINTS</b>
	8-16 inches	10
	16-20 inches	8
	4-8 inches	6
	>20 inches	4
	<4 Inches	1
<b>6</b>	<b>GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Rotation use - hay July 15-August 15, or grazed light to moderate with periodic burn	10
	Annual use - hay July 15-August 15, or grazed light to moderate with period burn	8
	Annual use - hay July 15-August 15 or grazed light to moderate	6
	Annual use - hay after August 15 or heavy use	4
	Mowed April 2-July 15, or not managed annually	1
	<b>GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>GRASSLAND COMPOSITION</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Mixed native warm-season grasses (<25% CSG) and forbs	10
	Mixed grasses with legumes and forbs	8
	Mixed native warm-season grasses with few or no forbs	6
	Mixed cool-season grasses; brome grass; timothy; orchardgrass; native grass monotype; predominant legumes; or mixed grasses	4
	Fescue monotype (>50 percent fescue)	1
<b>GRASSLAND COMPOSITION TOTAL POINTS</b>		
<b>SCORING SUMMARY</b> (Maximum Possible Score = 60)		
<b>Existing Score:</b>	<b>Planned Score:</b>	<b>Applied Score:</b>

<b>PRAIRIE/GRASSLAND COMMUNITY MODEL (CONT'D)</b>		
<b>NATURAL COMMUNITY TYPE INDEX</b>		
<u>Total Existing Score</u> Maximum Possible Score	<u>Total Planned Score</u> Maximum Possible Score	<u>Total Applied Score</u> Maximum Possible Score
Existing Index:	Planned Index:	Applied Index:
<b>SAVANNA COMMUNITY MODEL</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>HERBACEOUS CANOPY COVER (percent canopy coverage of herbaceous vegetation - grasses, forbs, legumes.</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Foliage covers >70 percent of the ground	10
	Foliage covers 40-70 percent of the ground	5
	Foliage covers <40 percent of the ground	1
	<b>HERBACEOUS CANOPY COVER SUBTOTAL POINTS</b>	
	<b>GRASS COVER (percent of herbaceous vegetation in grass or grass-like plants)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Grasses 75-100 percent of the herbaceous cover	10
	Grasses 50-75 percent of the herbaceous cover	6
	Grasses 20-50 percent of the herbaceous cover	3
	Grasses <20 percent of the herbaceous cover	1
	<b>GRASS COVER SUBTOTAL POINTS</b>	
	<b>HERBACEOUS CANOPY COVER TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>WOODLAND SIZE CLASS AND CANOPY COVERAGE</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Sawtimber - open canopy (<50 percent coverage)	10
	Reproduction - open canopy	8
	Pole - open canopy	5
	Sawtimber or Reproduction - closed canopy (>50 percent coverage)	3
	Pole - closed canopy	1
	<b>WOODLAND SIZE CLASS AND CANOPY TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>GRAZING OR HAYING PRESSURE (degree of use)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Light to none (Includes periodic burns)	10
	Moderate (3-6 inches CSG in winter height; 8-10 inches NWSG winter height)	5
	Heavy; or grass >6 inches and thick	1
	<b>GRAZING OR HAYING PRESSURE TOTAL POINTS</b>	

SAVANNA COMMUNITY MODEL (CONT'D)		
4	<b>GRASSLAND COMPOSITION</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Mixed native warm-season grasses (<25% CSG) and forbs	10
	Mixed grasses with legumes and forbs	8
	Mixed native warm-season grasses with few or no forbs	6
	Mixed cool-season grasses; brome grass; timothy; orchardgrass; native grass monotype; predominant legumes; or mixed grasses	4
	Fescue monotype (>50 percent fescue)	1
	<b>GRASSLAND COMPOSITION TOTAL POINTS</b>	
<b>SCORING SUMMARY</b> (Maximum Possible Score = 50)		
Existing Score:	Planned Score:	Applied Score:
<b>NATURAL COMMUNITY TYPE INDEX</b>		
<u>Total Existing Score</u> Maximum Possible Score	<u>Total Planned Score</u> Maximum Possible Score	<u>Total Applied Score</u> Maximum Possible Score
Existing Index:	Planned Index:	Applied Index:
<b>WOODLAND COMMUNITY MODEL</b>		
1	<b>WOODLAND TREE SPECIES</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Good mix of oaks, hickory, walnut, maple, elm, and mulberry	10
	Oaks, hickory with few other species	6
	Oak, hickory	4
	Few or no oaks, hickory, or walnut	1
	<b>WOODLAND TREE SPECIES TOTAL POINTS</b>	
2	<b>STOCKING OF LIVE TREES (see stocking guide)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	Adequately stocked	10
	Overstocked	5
	Understocked	1
	<b>STOCKING OF LIVE TREES TOTAL POINTS</b>	
3	<b>GRAZING PRESSURE</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
	None	10
	Light to heavy	1
	<b>GRAZING PRESSURE</b>	



WOODLAND COMMUNITY MODEL (CONT'D)											
4	NUMBER OF CAVITY TREES PER ACRE										POINTS
	> 9 trees										10
	3-9 trees										5
	< 3 trees										1
	NUMBER OF CAVITY TREES PER ACRE TOTAL POINTS										
5	PERCENT OF WOODLAND IN OLD GROWTH (>16 inches DBH)										POINTS
	>25 percent										10
	10-25 percent										8
	5-10 percent										6
	1-5 percent										4
	zero										1
	PERCENT OF WOODLAND IN OLD GROWTH TOTAL POINTS										
SCORING SUMMARY (Maximum Possible Score = 50)											
Existing Score:				Planned Score:				Applied Score:			
NATURAL COMMUNITY TYPE INDEX											
<u>Total Existing Score</u> Maximum Possible Score				<u>Total Planned Score</u> Maximum Possible Score				<u>Total Applied Score</u> Maximum Possible Score			
Existing Index:				Planned Index:				Applied Index:			
FARM HABITAT INDEX											
WHAG Acres Existing						WHAG Acres Planned					
CROP	GLADE	MARSH	PRAIRIE	SAVANN A	WOODS	CROP	GLADE	MARSH	PRAIRIE	SAVANN A	WOODS
WHAG Scores Existing						WHAG Scores Planned					
CROP	GLADE	MARSH	PRAIRIE	SAVANN A	WOODS	CROP	GLADE	MARSH	PRAIRIE	SAVANN A	WOODS
Existing Farm Index						Planned Farm Index					
<u>(Community Type Indices X Acres)</u> Total Area Evaluated						<u>(Community Type Indices X Acres)</u> Total Area Evaluated					

<b>WHIP NATURAL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT SCORING WORKSHEET</b>			
<b>Applicant:</b>		<b>Farm No.:</b>	<b>Tract No.:</b>
<b>County:</b>			
<b>I. ECOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS (95 Point Maximum)</b>			
<b>FACTOR 1 -</b>	<b>COUNTY VALUE</b>	<b>POINTS</b>	
<b>A</b>	<b>Within a Wildlife Priority Area (WPA)</b>	<b>15</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>Within the same county as a WPA</b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>C</b>	<b>Rest of the State</b>	<b>4</b>	
	<b>POINTS</b>		
<b>FACTOR 2 -</b>	<b>NATURAL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT (At a minimum the index for the WHAG Natural Community Model will be 0.5. Use A or B, but not both.)</b>	<b>POINTS</b>	
<b>A</b>	<b>Natural Community Emphasized in WPA</b>		
	<b>WHAG Score &gt; 0.75</b>	<b>15</b>	
	<b>WHAG Score 0.65-0.75</b>	<b>12</b>	
	<b>WHAG Score 0.55-0.65</b>	<b>8</b>	
	<b>WHAG Score 0.50-0.55</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>Other Community Type not Emphasized in the WPA</b>		
	<b>WHAG Score &gt; 0.75</b>	<b>10</b>	
	<b>WHAG Score 0.65-0.75</b>	<b>7</b>	
	<b>WHAG Score 0.55-0.65</b>	<b>4</b>	
	<b>WHAG Score 0.50-0.55</b>	<b>2</b>	
	<b>POINTS</b>		
<b>FACTOR 3 -</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTION OF CONTRACT TO FEDERAL THREATENED/ENDANGERED OR STATE RARE SPECIES</b>	<b>POINTS</b>	
<b>A</b>	<b>Federal Species - Critical</b>	<b>10</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>State Species - Critical</b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>C</b>	<b>Significant</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>D</b>	<b>Minimal</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>E</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>0</b>	
	<b>POINTS</b>		

<b>FACTOR 4 -</b>	<b>RESTORATION OF NATIVE HABITAT</b> Establishment, management, or habitat manipulation in contract encourages:	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>A</b>	Native plant community of four or more plant species	<b>20</b>
<b>B</b>	Native plant species mix of three species	<b>12</b>
<b>C</b>	Wildlife friendly plant mixes or single species of native plants	<b>7</b>
<b>D</b>	All other plant species	<b>1</b>
	<b>POINTS</b>	
<b>FACTOR 5</b>	<b>HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PRACTICES</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>A</b>	Practices to be installed are targeted at improvement in the featured natural community	<b>10</b>
<b>B</b>	Practices installed provide positive benefits for wildlife but not targeted at featured natural community	<b>5</b>
<b>C</b>	Practices installed have neutral effect for wildlife or featured natural community	<b>1</b>
	<b>POINTS</b>	
<b>FACTOR 6</b>	<b>WILDLIFE HABITAT DEVELOPMENT PLAN</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>A</b>	Complements existing conservation plan on the same property	<b>5</b>
<b>B</b>	Complements an existing conservation plan on adjacent property	<b>3</b>
<b>C</b>	Natural community plan does not complement existing plans or is the sole resource plan for the property	<b>0</b>
	<b>POINTS</b>	
<b>FACTOR 7</b>	<b>ACRES OR PERCENTAGE OF THE CONTRACT COVERED BY WHDP</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>A</b>	>90% or >500 acres	<b>20</b>
<b>B</b>	70 to 90% or 250 to 500 acres	<b>15</b>
<b>C</b>	>50 to <70% or >125 to <250 acres	<b>10</b>
<b>D</b>	40 to 50% or 50 to 125 acres	<b>6</b>
<b>E</b>	>30 to <40% or >25 to <50 acres	<b>4</b>
<b>F</b>	≤ 30% or ≤ 25 acres	<b>2</b>
	<b>POINTS</b>	

<b>II. OTHER FACTORS - SOCIETAL BENEFITS (5 points maximum)</b>			
<b>Factor</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>Public Education</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Public Recreation</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Water Quality</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>POINTS</b>			
<b>SCORING SUMMARY</b>			
<b>TOTAL ECOLOGICAL CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>(95 points maximum)</b>		
<b>TOTAL OTHER FACTORS POINTS</b>	<b>(5 points maximum)</b>		
<b>TOTAL POINTS FOR THIS PLAN</b>	<b>(100 points maximum)</b>		